



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

July 12, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors and Principals

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Personal Curriculum Update

The personal curriculum, as established in section 380.1278b of the Revised School Code, allows specific modifications to be made to requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) under certain conditions in order to individualize the rigor and relevance of the educational experience. While the law specifies the areas in which modifications may be made for specific groups of students, the personal curriculum is intended to help make the MMC accessible to all students while maintaining the academic rigor required to uphold the integrity of the high school diploma. A personal curriculum may be requested and implemented for four reasons:

- To go beyond the academic credit requirements by adding more math, science, English language arts, or world languages credits
- To modify the Algebra II mathematics requirement
- To modify credit requirements based on the disability of a student with an Individualized Education Plan
- To modify credit requirements for a transfer student from out of state or from a non-public school who has completed the equivalent of two years of high school and is unable to meet the MMC requirements.

The intent of the legislation is that the personal curriculum is a pathway to a diploma. The personal curriculum is a tool to individualize the MMC in order to make it accessible and achievable for all students without undermining the rigor of the MMC or the integrity of the diploma.

The Michigan Department of Education Personal Curriculum Guidance Documents can be found at the following website: www.michigan.gov/highschool, <http://personalcurriculum.ning.com>, and <http://www.actpoint.com/mi/>.

Questions should be directed to Mary Head, Office of Education Improvement and Innovation, at headm1@michigan.gov.

c: Michigan Education Alliance

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